

STATE OF MAINE

—  
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

—  
S.P. 640 - L.D. 1608

**An Act to Address Teacher Shortages Through Financial Assistance and  
Career Advancement Opportunities**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §10911** is enacted to read:

**§10911. Report on Maine teacher residency program**

By December 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the university shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters on the status of a Maine teacher residency program administered by the university.

**Sec. 2. Maine Education Policy Research Institute to study career ladders for educators.** The Maine Education Policy Research Institute shall study the development of career ladders for educators. The study must include:

1. A review of career ladders for educators developed in other states, including Maryland;
2. An analysis of the options for developing a teacher residency certificate and advanced teacher certificates, such as distinguished teacher certificates and lead teacher certificates;
3. Ways to diversify the educator workforce; and
4. Educator recruitment and retention best practices.

By December 6, 2023, the institute shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The committee may report out a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

**Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
Educational and General Activities - UMS 0031**

Initiative: Provides one-time funds to support the Maine Teacher Residency Program at the University of Southern Maine.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$0	\$200,000
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$200,000</u>